

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

USDC SDNY  
DOCUMENT  
ELECTRONICALLY FILED  
DOC #: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE FILED: 1/25/2022

United States of America

v.

Benjamin Lee,

*Defendant.*

**Protective Order**

**21 Cr. 773 (AT)**

Upon the application of the United States of America, with the consent of the undersigned counsel, the Court hereby finds and orders as follows:

**1. Confidential Material.** The Government will make disclosure to the defendant of documents, objects and information, including electronically stored information (“ESI”), pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 16, 18 U.S.C. §3500, and the Government’s general obligation to produce exculpatory and impeachment material in criminal cases. Certain of that discovery may include material that (i) affects the privacy and confidentiality of individuals; (ii) would impede, if prematurely disclosed, the Government’s ongoing investigation of uncharged individuals; (iii) would risk prejudicial pretrial publicity if publicly disseminated; and (iv) that is not authorized to be disclosed to the public or disclosed beyond that which is necessary for the defense of this criminal case. Discovery materials produced by the Government to the defendant or his counsel that are either (1) designated in whole or in part as “Confidential” or as “Subject to Protective Order” by the Government in emails or communications with defense counsel, or (2) that include a Bates or other label stating “Confidential” or “Subject to Protective Order” shall be deemed “Confidential Material.”

**NOW, THEREFORE, FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

2. Confidential Material shall not be disclosed by the defendant or defense counsel, including any successor counsel (“the defense”) other than as set forth herein, and shall be used

by the defense solely for purposes of defending this action. The defense shall not post any Confidential Material on any Internet site or network site to which persons other than the parties hereto have access, and shall not disclose any Confidential Material to the media or any third party except as set forth below.

3. Confidential Material may be disclosed by counsel to:

- (a) Personnel for whose conduct counsel is responsible, *i.e.*, personnel employed by or retained by counsel, as needed for purposes of defending this action;
- (b) Prospective witnesses for purposes of defending this action; and
- (c) The defendant.

4. The Government may authorize, in writing, disclosure of Confidential Material beyond that otherwise permitted by this Order without further Order of this Court.

5. This Order does not prevent the disclosure of any Confidential Material in any hearing or trial held in this action, or to any judge or magistrate judge, for purposes of this action. All filings should comply with the privacy protection provisions of Fed. R. Crim. P. 49.1.

6. Except for Confidential Material that has been made part of the record of this case, the defense shall return to the Government or securely destroy or delete all Confidential Material within 1-year from when the judgment of conviction becomes final unless a motion under 18 U.S.C. 2255 is filed; or 30 days of the expiration of the period for direct appeal from any verdict in the above-captioned case; the period of direct appeal from any order dismissing any of the charges in the above-captioned case; or the granting of any motion made on behalf of the Government dismissing any charges in the above-captioned case, whichever date is later, subject to defense counsel's obligation to retain client files under the Rules of Professional Conduct.

7. As may be appropriate: The defense shall provide a copy of this Order to prospective witnesses and persons retained by counsel to whom the defense has disclosed Confidential Material. All such persons shall be subject to the terms of this Order. Defense counsel shall maintain a record of what Confidential Material has been disclosed to which such persons.

8. This Order places no restriction on a defendant's use or disclosure of ESI that originally belonged to the defendant.

**Retention of Jurisdiction**

9. The provisions of this order shall not terminate at the conclusion of this criminal prosecution, and the Court shall retain jurisdiction to enforce this order for the pendency of this case.

AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:

DAMIAN WILLIAMS  
United States Attorney

by: /s/ Andrew Jones  
Andrew Jones  
Assistant United States Attorney

Date: January 21, 2022

/s/ Mark Gombiner  
Mark Gombiner  
Counsel for Benjamin Lee

Date: January 22, 2022

SO ORDERED:

Dated: January 25, 2022  
New York, New York



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THE HONORABLE ANALISA TORRES  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE